



July 1978

# *The* BEGONIAN



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Monthly Publication  
of the American  
Begonia Society

# The BEGONIAN

Founded by  
Herbert P. Dyckman  
January, 1932

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## DEADLINES

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Views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the editors, the society, or its officers.

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## THE BEGONIAN

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## AIMS AND PURPOSES OF THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

The purpose of this Society shall be:

TO stimulate and promote interest in *Begonia*  
and other shade-loving plants;

TO encourage the introduction and development  
of new types of these plants;

TO standardize the nomenclature of *Begonia*;

TO gather and publish information in regard to  
kinds, propagation and culture of *Begonia* and  
companion plants;

TO issue a bulletin which will be mailed to all  
members of the Society; and

TO bring into friendly contact all who love and  
grow *Begonia*.



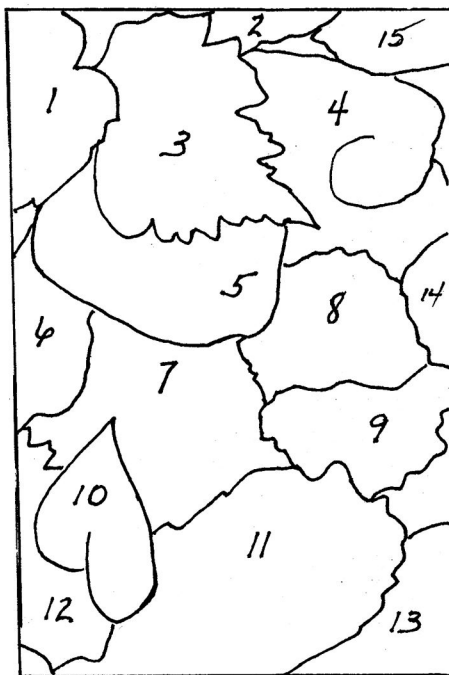
## Cover Photo

## THOSE GLORIOUS REXES

The cover photograph shows a collage of rex begonia leaves prepared by Bob Cole at the Plant Shop in Reseda and photographed by Ed Bates. The color of the spring growth in April was particularly brilliant and clearly marked. Later in the summer, the color values tend to fade or become somewhat less pronounced and the zones less clearly demarked. Both high temperatures and light intensity seem to be factors in altering the color zones in rex leaves.

The cultivars on the cover are:

1. Leatherman's Reiga (Teupel)
2. Red Raven (Cole)
3. Zenaida (Cole)
4. Swirl Lee (Lee)
5. Brazil Red (Brazil via Leatherman)
6. Pink Plunder (Lee)
7. Sir Carleton L'Hommedieu (Leatherman)
8. Hertzog von Sagen (Teupel)
9. Carol Blais
10. Pink Haze (McClellan)



11. Big Red (Lee)
12. Abendrote (Teupel)
13. Big Red, Jr. (Lee)
14. Lee's #9
15. Oh Razzberries (Cole)



Best rex begonia at  
Southwest Get Together  
Grown by the Roberts  
Photo by Bob Hamm

## HER MAJESTY SYLVIA LEATHERMAN and HIS MAJESTY BUCK LEATHERMAN

This story should start with a fanfare of trumpets and a roll of drums to present Sylvia and Buck Leatherman to their long list of associates in the American Begonia Society and to introduce them to the newcomers in the Society. Mr. and Mrs. Leatherman were very active for over thirty years. As a commercial grower, hybridizer, writer, lecturer, researcher and judge, Sylvia devoted her considerable energies to the ABS and begonias. When their two sons were still young, she embarked on a business venture by starting an exotic plant nursery. She tended the nursery stock and handled the customers' orders while Buck continued with his regular job. Early ads for the nursery include the then very popular fuchsias, pelargoniums, bromeliads and irises. Gradually the interest concentrated on ferns and begonias, and Leatherman Gardens became a mecca for specialty collectors. It was in operation from the early thirties until its stock was bought in 1974 by the Plant Shop's Botanical Gardens.

Mr. Leatherman did not play such a prominent part in this story because he held a full time position in an electronics firm and his participation was limited by time available. As often as possible he devoted effort to set-up shows and transport plants, to accompany Sylvia to the many meetings and shows and, in general, he was a participant in the activities of the Society. He served on the Board of Directors of the Los Angeles Fern Society and worked on their displays. After his retirement he

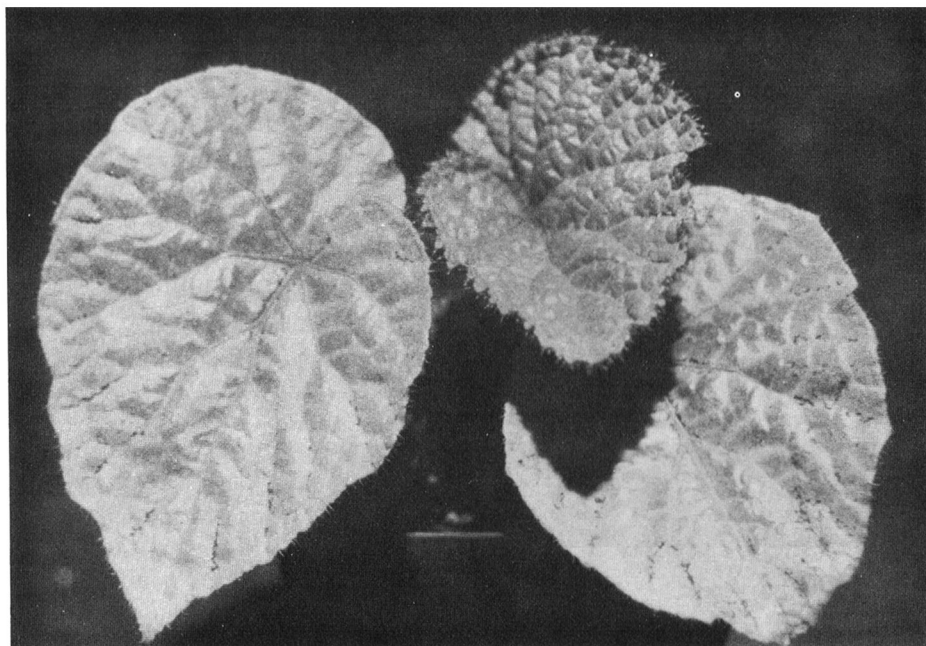
worked in the nursery along with his wife.

There was scarcely a show in Southern California where ferns or begonias were involved that Sylvia and Buck did not participate. She grew plants for plant tables — both old favorites and new introductions — and sold them at the Societies' plant sales, she conducted seminars and demonstrations, she put in displays and individual entries, and she organized and judged shows.

Her earliest appearance in the *Begonian* as an author was in 1947 with "Growing Exotic Ferns." Over the next couple of years she did a series on ferns. By 1949 she was writing articles on culture of begonias and about individual begonias and later she wrote of begonia research. She was a frequent lecturer on begonias and ferns at plant clubs.

Mrs. Leatherman became ABS Research Director in 1955 and served until 1960. In this capacity she sought to clarify the identification of some begonias, to research cultural problems, and to introduce new kinds of begonias. Frequently she enlisted others in the program by sending begonias for testing. She carried on a correspondence that went world wide for information, seeds and plants. Undaunted by language barriers, she had letters and articles translated for the *Begonian* from botanists and horticulturists in Germany, Italy, and Brazil. Gradually seeds went to the Seed Fund and plants made their way into the collections of many growers. In 1959 she made a trip to





*B. 'Her Majesty Sylvia Leatherman'*

The leaves of this rex begonia appear to be fashioned of silver. It is a cross of two other rex begonias, 'Pam Sue' and 'Midnight Cowboy'. *B. 'His Majesty Buck Leatherman'* has a black-green blade with silvery-white splashes.

Sao Paulo. Her report of that experience can be found in three articles she wrote for the *Begonian* in 1959 (pages 32, 275, and 209). As a result of her work, *B. herbacea* Vell. and *B. egregia* reached us. She met with Dr. Kurt Brade whose name is attached to a large number of Brazilian begonia species.

Her involvement with identification made her invaluable at a begonia show and she soon became involved with improving classification and judging techniques. In 1965 she began as ABS Judging Course Director, a new post in which she would educate others in appropriate techniques for evaluating plants. Her series of judging lessons are still included in the present judging course.

Parallel to this frenzy of activity was a similar expenditure of time and energy devoted to ferns — growing, displaying, judging and participating in shows. She wrote a book with D. S. Behrends called *Learn of Ferns We Grow*.

Preferences in plants seem to go in cycles. What was a fad for some was a working passion for Sylvia Leatherman. In her early activities she developed a special affection for rex begonias. She purchased seeds from the German Seed Commerce Center and imported cultivars from Teupels, the leading source in Europe, so that many American growers have these lovely plants in their collections. An early concern was the watering of  
(Continued on page 189)

## BEGONIA PROFILES

By Thelma O'Reilly, La Mesa, Calif.

### BEGONIA 'ALICE G.'



The Frost team, Doug and Goldie, is comparatively new in Begonia hybridizing history but their record of success is outstanding. After enjoying their warm and generous hospitality numerous times, it is my opinion that they are successful because Goldie dreams and plays while Doug works and prays. The results of their team efforts are an impressive list of many lovely and exciting begonia hybrids including *B. 'Alice G.'*

*Begonia 'Alice G.'* has large, bright green, velvet-textured leaves that are deeply lobed and star-shaped with prominent black edgings. The petioles have red spots and white hairs with a collar of white hairs at the stem and leaf juncture. The baby-pink flowers are medium sized on 15 inch peduncles. *B. 'Alice G.'* inherited the rich leaf texture and vivid coloring of its female parent, *B. 'Persian Brocade'*. It inherited the leaf

size and stately plant shape of its male parent, *B. 'Dr. Jim'*.

*Begonia 'Alice G.'* is always a full, heavily foliated plant because the creeping, medium sized rhizomes break well, growing in several directions. If put into a large container with room to grow it will develop into a handsome specimen with leaves measuring 10-12 inches across. It is very hardy and will tolerate Southern California winters outdoors with minimal leaf drop. It thrives on dry, hot summer air if grown in filtered light and is easily propagated from leaf or rhizome cuttings. These easy cultural requirements make it an excellent begonia for beginners.

The Frosts named *Begonia 'Alice G.'* in honor of Alice Gunnerson, a long-time friend, who has been an American Begonia Society member and begonia grower for thirty years. She was one of the organizers of the Garden Grove Branch and has been active since its inception.

*Begonia 'Alice G.'* bears Registration #459 (see *Begonian* Sept. 1975). It is available from Doug and Goldie Frost, 10622 Teal Street, Garden Grove, Calif. 92643.

Photo by Thelma O'Reilly

**The Indoor Light Gardening Society of America, Inc.,** Dept. B, 128 West 58th St., New York, New York 10019. Dues \$5.00. Bi-monthly magazine **LIGHT GARDEN**; cultural guides; seed exchange; round robins; chapters; slide library.

## VOLUNTEER JOYS

By Mildred Swyka, Middletown, Delaware

When May finally arrives, it is time for this winter-weary begonia lover to set up my wax begonia beds wherever I can find a suitable spot. After the summer of growth, the plants had been trimmed back and placed several to a flat. The flats were left on the back bench for winter storage and kept in a semi-dormant state until May. Soon after I plant them, the begonias start new growth and in a short time are a mass of blooms.

By the end of July I am ready to start a most enjoyable chore — collecting seed pods. I find seeds of all plants fascinating, and save all the begonia seeds for friends and robins and always plant several flats myself. When I plant mine, I always follow the directions for begonia seeds according to the "book". Sometimes I have grand results, but sometimes I get very frustrated when the rules fail me. Therefore, I am amazed when August and September come around to find many volunteers appearing around the plants and in many spots away from the plants, as if the seeds were blown by the wind. The soil is not sterile. They get no special care, only the warmth from the summer months. The dust-like seeds put forth hundreds of volunteers which grow very fast. I am delighted to watch them to see if they are worthy of saving for the next year. All of these are bee-crosses since I cannot take time from my busy summer chores to hybridize deliberately.

Last year I put some of my canes in the ground — *B.* 'Otto Hacker', *B.*

'Pink Spot Lucerne', and *B. undulata* — and used them as background plants. I also put pots of succulents in the bed with the begonias. Last year when I put them back in the greenhouse, there was a nice clump of volunteers in one of the succulent pots. I paid no particular attention to them until about six weeks later when I was startled to see how they had grown. I also noted that some had red stems and some hairy stems, not like my ordinary semps. Surely here were some volunteers worth saving and I did just that. By the time I had potted seventy-five plants, they were already three inches tall. There were perhaps one hundred more. Those I potted to give away. In the cluster of volunteers there must have been eight variations. By the time I was ready to transfer them to my begonia beds this year, they were already blooming. To protect my "private collection of wax begonias" outdoors, I cut collars from milk cartons and these will keep our cats and dogs away. By September I will be able to judge what mother nature's volunteers have brought me. The survival and germination of this tiny seed is an amazing thrill, as are the tomatoes, hot peppers, squash which all live over the winter and come up "voluntarily" in the spring. Here in Delaware, the winter temperatures go as low as zero at least once during the winter: I am sure Begonia seeds do not survive the winter, but for three months in the fall of the year, my wax begonias supply me with hundreds of 'volunteer joys'.



## Nominees for Office 1978-79

### PRESIDENT

#### Nathan Randall

Nathan Randall is the first vice president of the ABS and serves on the committee to revise the constitution and Bylaws. He is head of the speakers bureau. He is a member of the Glendale Branch and served as its vice president. He is employed by the City of Los Angeles as an engineering designer. He attended U.C.L.A. and Redlands College and has a degree from University of Southern California. He has worked in civil engineering and accounting jobs. He has also taken classes recently in horticulture at Pierce College.

### PRESIDENT-ELECT

#### Gilbert Estrada

Gilbert Estrada is currently serving as ABS Treasurer. He served as the Business Manager for two years. He has served on the following committees: finance, publication, committee to revise Constitution and Bylaws, editorial board. He was the 1977 show treasurer. Gill is past president of the Redondo Area Branch and has served as branch treasurer. He also served as secretary of the Garden Grove Branch. He served as the founding president of the Garden Grove Chapter of the American Gloxinia and Gesneriad Society. He is enjoying an early retirement.

#### Norma Taylor

Norma Taylor served as president of the Orange County Branch for two terms, 1975-1976 and as its secretary in 1974. She was in charge of arrangements for the tours at the Anaheim Convention in 1977. She was president of a musical arts asso-

ciation in Orange County for one year. Norma has been employed as an office manager for ten years and a secretary for seven.

### 1st VICE PRESIDENT

#### Ralph Corwin

Ralph Corwin is the current 2nd vice president of the ABS and is the chairman of the committee to revise the Constitution and Bylaws. He is the national representative for the Palomar Branch. He was employed by the City of Los Angeles School District as a business administration specialist until his retirement in 1970. He grows tropical plants and exotic fruits on his rancho in Vista.

#### Dan Millis

Dan Millis has been an active member of the Theodosia Burr Shepherd Branch for three years. He has served as chairman of the large branch show for the past two years. His first show boasted a record earnings of \$2000. Dan is a commercial real estate salesman for Coldwell Banker, Inc. He is married and has two sons, aged nine and 7 years.

### 2nd VICE PRESIDENT

#### Frank Kerin

Frank Kerin has served several terms as president of the Edna Stewart Pittsburgh Branch. He was chairman of the Eastern Regional Conference at Pittsburgh in 1977 and classification chairman at the recent Miami conclave. He owns and operates greenhouses and two plant shops in the Pittsburgh area known as the Hobby Greenhouses, devoted to indoor plants.

## **Douglas Frost**

Doug Frost has served as the president of the Garden Grove Branch and vice president of both the Garden Grove and Orange County Branches. He served as Show Chairman of the National ABS Show in 1977. He has also served as vice president and president of the Garden Grove Fuchsia Society and vice president of the Garden Grove Gesneriad Society. When his boys were of school age, he served as committee chairman for the Cub and Boy Scout troops and holds an honorary life membership in the PTA. Doug and his wife, Goldie, are retired and devote their time to raising begonias.

## **SECRETARY**

### **Virginia Barnett**

Virginia Barnett has served as ABS secretary since her appointment in 1977. She has also served as business manager in 1970, and as secretary in 1968 and 1969. She has served in several offices in the San Gabriel Branch.

### **Dorothy Porter**

Dorothy Porter has served as secretary of the Orange County Branch several times and as its president as well. She is a member of the board of deaconesses of her church. She is office manager for the family owned wholesale nursery, Porter's Tropicals, Inc.

## **TREASURER**

### **W. E. "Bill" Walton**

Bill Walton is the current business manager and has held office on the national board as branch representative, treasurer, president-elect, president and past president in the late 1940's. Later he served three years

as membership secretary. Bill graduated from the University of California at Berkeley with a B.S. degree in chemistry and worked for U.S. Steel Corp. for thirty years in several capacities including cost finding and control as an industrial engineer.

## **Eleanor Calkins**

Eleanor Calkins is the current president of the Palomar Branch and served as branch treasurer for two years. She has been membership chairperson of the North San Diego County Chapter of the American Association of Women Accountants for four years and a director for one year. At present she serves as head of the deaconess board of her church. She has worked as a bookkeeper-accountant for approximately ten years.

The following candidates have been presented for your consideration as officers of the American Begonia Society for the year 1978-1979.

### *President*

Nathan Randall ☐

### *President-Elect*

Gilbert Estrada ☐

Norma Taylor ☐

### *1st Vice President*

Ralph Corwin ☐

Dan Millis ☐

### *2nd Vice President*

Frank Kerin ☐

Douglas Frost ☐

### *Secretary*

Virginia Barnett ☐

Dorothy Porter ☐

### *Treasurer*

W. E. Walton ☐

Eleanor Calkins ☐

## ABS ELECTION

Please vote for the candidate of your choice by marking an X beside the appropriate name. Vote for only one person for each office. You must enclose this ballot in a sealed envelope and mail it by first class mail. Only ballots in *sealed* envelopes may be presented to the ballot committee for counting. *This ballot must be mailed by September 2, 1978 to be counted.*

Ballot Committee  
American Begonia Society  
Virginia Barnett, Secretary  
1213 S. Mullender Ave.  
West Covina, CA 91790

At the end of May, in a conference with U.S. postal officials, the American Begonia Society learned that it would no longer be permitted to include a separate ballot card in the magazines. The only loose insert permitted is the one which notifies the member of the date of expiration of his membership. Therefore, the ballot is being printed in such a way that it may be cut off and still leave the pages of the magazine intact. It appears on the reverse.

1. Cut out ballot on reverse.
2. Vote for one person for each office.
3. Mail in sealed envelope via first class mail.
4. Mail to:  
Ballot Committee  
American Begonia Society  
Virginia Barnett, Secretary  
1213 S. Mullender Ave.  
West Covina, CA 91790

## PLANT SALE

Everyone likes to see his name in print. I don't think the Branches of the American Begonia Society are any different than individuals. So far we have received contributions from the following:

Buxton Branch	\$25.00
Eastern New York Branch	\$15.00
Rochester Branch	\$10.00
San Gabriel Valley Branch	\$25.00

Pledges of plant donations have come from the following:

Central San Joaquin Branch	100
East Bay Branch	78
Garden Grove Branch	150
Greater Chicago Area Branch	100
Palomar Branch	100
Redondo Branch	50
Sacramento Branch	1972
San Francisco Branch	100
San Miguel Branch	100
T. B. Shepherd Branch	200

Wouldn't you like to have your Branch name added to one of the above groups as an outward sign of support for the 1978 National Convention and Show?

Lou Thompson  
Plant Sales Chairman

### The Plant Shop's Botanical Garden

18007 Topham Street  
Reseda, CA 91335

### NEW 1978 CATALOG OF BEGONIAS ONLY

OVER 300 BEGONIAS DESCRIBED  
IN 32 PAGE BOOK

\$1 per copy  
(deductible from first order)



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT FROM TEXHOMA

By Charles Richardson, ABS President

As I flew to the Texhoma Get Together, many things passed through my mind. I knew no one other than those I had read about. I had no idea of the number who would be attending or where they would come from. May Blanton had had the idea for a regional meeting for many years, and Bob Hamm had the enthusiasm to carry it through.

I was met at the plane by Mae and Bob and several others who had been meeting the planes as guests came in. Their welcome and enthusiasm was most heartening, and I realized that I was in for a warm experience. At the hotel people freely introduced themselves to one another, so that I soon knew that they all felt as I did — that this was really a Get-together. We talked about everything "Begonia." There were fifty-four members of the ABS there. Most were members-at-large, but the Texas Branches were represented. Dr. Fred Barkley was there, and it was a pleasure after all these years in ABS, to be able to talk with him.

The first evening, after an informal dinner, Mae conducted a seminar that was followed by many questions. Following that, some of us chatted until midnight. I was asked many questions about the national organization and its activities. As a result, I changed the emphasis of my brief talk after the banquet the next night to elaborate on this topic.

I tried to point out that the National Board is not a geographical location, but that it had input from around the country through corres-

pondence and phone calls and that many participants were scattered around the country. I mentioned the contributions made by Round Robins and the Seed Fund. I mentioned the publication of such books as those by Millie and Ed Thompson, Elda Haring and Alice Clark. I mentioned the books soon to come out such as the English translation of the Japanese book by Dr. Marguerite de Cola and Rudy Ziesenhenné's Registered Cultivars. And I mentioned the contributors to the *Begonian* and our Editors' work. I mentioned Evelyn Cronin and her work of helping new branches to organize. I pointed out that we hope to have our membership list computerized soon so that parts, or all of it, can be sent to those interested in starting new branches.

I hope that the results of the Get Together will be far reaching — that others will pick up the idea in their own areas. I was impressed that the members-at-large wanted to be in the mainstream of things and did not want to be forgotten afterwards. In Texas and environs they are forming a regional group to include the members-at-large. This is a big step forward. Nineteen of the Texas group have already made plans to attend the National Convention and Show. If you come, you will meet them and many others who share your enthusiasm for begonias. I hope to have each branch and member-at-large recognized at the meeting. We'll do everything we can to show the same spirit in Sacramento that was so evident in Wichita Falls.

## A FANTASTIC WEEKEND

By Bob Hamm, Wichita Falls, Texas

Fantastic is the only word to describe the experience of the 54 begonia growers who gathered in Wichita Falls for the Southwest Begonia Get Together, May 19-21. In this region of the country where growers may be hundreds of miles apart, the gathering was the first of its kind. ABS members-at-large and independent begonia growers came from all over Texas, Oklahoma, Missouri, Mississippi, Tennessee and Kentucky. Most of the growers attending do not belong to any branch, have never attended a begonia gathering of any kind and, until now, have never had a chance to do anything but dream about attending a convention. For all, it was a dream come true.

Most of the group arrived Friday night to register and enter plants in the show. Even with people driving hundreds of miles, there were 69 entries. The plants travelled very well, and many of the entrants afterwards said, "I would have brought more, if I had known they would take the trip so well." Charles Richardson, ABS president, commented that he was amazed at the diversity of begonias and that there were many varieties he had never seen.

Traveling with plants is not always easy. The group that came the farthest were five entries by Kit Jeans from Tennessee. Kit left one week before the Get Together, drove to see her daughter in Missouri, and then on to our show. The plants were babied-along throughout the week, went through two changes in vehi-

cles, and still arrived in such good condition that all five received blue ribbons and one *B. imperialis* in a container won Best in Class.

The most excited grower had to be Mrs. Roberts from Dallas, who had never attended a begonia show, let alone enter one. I'll never forget the look of ecstasy when she ran up to me with tears in her eyes, gave me a big hug, and said, "I won two Best in Class . . . it's wonderful!" Right then and there she decided she would never miss a chance to attend another Get Together. But the thing she did not know she found out at the banquet on Saturday night: in addition to her Best in Class ribbons, she had won Best Rhizomatous and Best in Show. Her magnificent *B. 'Carol Star'*, a gorgeous rhizomatous begonia easily 36 inches in diameter, came 156 miles in a cardboard box stuffed with paper and still had its blooms in tact.

The Best Novice Award went to Brad Neugebauer, our youngest grower. Brad is 16, lives in Dallas, and grows under lights in the garage. His plants were smaller in size, but gorgeous and in great condition. He won the Novice award for a very well-grown *B. masoniana* 'Tricolor'. What really captivated the entire group was his beautiful *B. cathayana*, grown *in the open* without protection, in his light garden. All of us who keep killing this gorgeous begonia are sure that Brad has not only a green thumb, but a complete green arm! Brad won five blue ribbons, two reds, one honorable mention.

Saturday the group enjoyed a series of programs including a fantastic tape and slide presentation of "Rhizomatous Begonias" sent by Ed and Millie Thompson, a program on growing from seeds by Bob Hamm with free plantings of seeds donated by the Seed Fund Director Linda Miller for everyone, a highly informative session led by Dr. Fred Barkley during which Dr. Barkley gave a glimpse of how begonias grow in their native conditions, and a program by Mae Blanton on Hybridizing.

Charles Richardson, ABS president, was banquet speaker. He congratulated everyone on their enthusiastic and successful participation. His speech gave an overview of the American Begonia Society. He said that the only way for the National Board to know what the members at the local level need and think is for members to take the time to write their thoughts and wishes to the Board. Other events at the banquet included a summary of the results of testing several varieties of begonias for cold hardiness by Bob Hamm, the presenting of awards, and the drawing for door prizes.

Many of the participants in the Get Together brought plants for the plant sale. Logee's Greenhouses sent a box of plants and Mabel Corwin "airmailed" her plants with Mr. Richardson. The Get Together members really enjoyed choosing new varieties for their collections.

Sunday was a fun day with a tour that allowed the members to see begonias growing and to buy even more plants. Bill and Jackie Parker showed us through their beautiful green-

houses and light garden, the Smiths opened Gardentown especially for our tour, the Jolly Dean Greenhouse was fun, and everyone wandered through my own jungle.

Everyone enjoyed the entire gathering. It gave the members-at-large a chance to meet one another, to talk and exchange ideas and discuss problems of growing in our particular region. It has promoted a feeling of togetherness and good will among people who are isolated in their love of begonias. Several good things came from the close contact, among them the idea of forming a Regional Begonia Growers Group which would function like a branch, but would coordinate activities for the members-at-large and promote branches and sponsor more events like the Get Together. Plans were formulated to rent a bus, making several stops across the state to pick up passengers to go to the National Convention. But the most important thing of all is that we no longer feel isolated and alone.

I want to thank so many people for their help, participation and gifts. I want to thank the Board of Directors for their attention, and Mr. Richardson for speaking: it really made us feel like a part of the Society. Last of all I thank Mae Blanton for bringing up the idea and all the wonderful people who came and made it a wonderful experience.

---

## MAY COVER

The photograph on the cover of the May issue was taken by James D. Porter of the Theodosia Burr Shepherd Branch. Our apologies for not identifying him correctly.





Scenes from the Southwest Get Together include Best in Show *B. 'Carol Star'* shown above. On the next page, starting at upper left: President Richardson with Dr. Fred Barkley; Brad Neugebauer, Novice Trophy winner; Bob Hamm at podium; group on tour; Mr. and Mrs. Roberts, Best in Show winners; shoppers on tour; intent listeners at seminar; three happy attendees at show. Photos by Bob Hamm.

## SOUTHWEST BEGONIA GET TOGETHER

### AWARDS

#### AWARD

Best in Show  
Best Rhizomatous  
Best Semperflorens  
Best Novice  
Cultural Award  
Cultural Award

#### EXHIBITOR

Mr. & Mrs. Roberts  
Mr. & Mrs. Roberts  
Bob Hamm  
Brad Neugebauer  
Kit Jeans  
Mr. & Mrs. Roberts

#### EXHIBIT

*B. 'Carol Star'*  
*B. 'Carol Star'*  
*B. 'Dainty Maid'*  
*B. 'Tricolor'*  
*B. imperialis* hybrid  
*B. rex cultorum* hybrid

#### Best of Class (not listed above)

Rex, spiral leaved	Tommy Keepin
Rex, small leaved	Gorgenne Skinner
Terrarium	Judy Byers
Basket	Bob Hamm
Basket (under 8")	Bob Hamm
Cane	Bill & Jackie Parker

*B. 'Countess Louise Erdody'*  
*B. 'Redwing'*  
Mixed planting  
*B. 'Lulandii'*  
*B. 'Pinafore'*  
*B. 'Pinafore'*



## ROUND ROBIN NOTES

By Mabel Corwin, Round Robin Director

We are planning an informal get together for all round robin members attending the convention in Sacramento. It will probably be Friday afternoon following the board meeting, approximately 5:30 to 6:30 P.M. I am looking forward to meeting you there.

### Packing for Mailing

Many robin members exchange cuttings by mail. Carolyn Collman, California, sent along these suggestions for packing: A good container is a MacDonald's Big Mac hamburger carton. Works like a charm to protect the cuttings. I also have used 7 oz. styrofoam cups for some time now. If I am sending cuttings I put the cutting in a plastic bag and then fit the bag, or bags, into a styrofoam cup and then turn another cup on top of this and tape the two together. 2" pots will fit into the cups and a piece of plastic can be taped around the pots to keep the soil in if rooted cuttings or plants are being shipped. The pot will fit snugly into the cup and the cup on top will protect the leaves. If there is much space in the top cup I stuff extra baggies around the leaves. The styrofoam cups are very light weight so this helps on postage. Another potential packaging is the round tubes in the foil boxes or paper towel centers, etc.

### Capillary watering

Some of the members are experimenting with capillary matting for watering their plants. Zelda Issacs, New York, finds it fantastic for her plants except for orchids. She lets plants and mat dry out, then waters

plants and all with excellent results. She cuts the matting to fit the shelves. Linda Miller, California, uses sponge rubber carpet padding for capillary watering for the extra humidity, but she waters her plants from the top. She only waters every ten days using this method, for she doesn't keep the mat wet enough to capillary water the plants. She feels that this method could permit the spread of disease from one plant to another and the algae growth is unsightly. Linda finds it best to transplant seedlings while very small and she uses sphagnum moss for the first transplanting because she has less damp-off with it. She feeds her bowl plants with a few grains of Osmocote time release fertilizer.

When Jane Johnson, Minnesota, prepared to go on vacation she purchased several trays and ceiling grids, 2 x 4 egg crate style. She repotted plants and wicked them and set on grids under lights. She added a little clorox to the water to discourage algae, and put fertilizer in the water in the trays. This enabled her son to care for her plants easily by keeping the trays filled with water.

We plan to start a flight on Organic Begonia Growing soon. If you are interested in this, let me know.

Don't forget to send me your new address when you move. If you have any questions regarding the robins write to me.

Mabel Corwin  
1119 Loma Vista Way  
Vista, CA 92083



## AN INVITATION

As hosts for this year's national show and convention, September 15-17, the Sacramento Branch is looking forward to seeing and meeting once again) all our begonia friends at the "Begonia Bonanza".

We have been operating in high gear since last fall. Everyone has pooled together their many energies and creative ideas to create a full-steam-ahead enthusiasm to assure you a convention and show that will be second to none.

We encouraged other Northern California Branches to participate along with us and are excited that the San Francisco and East Bay branches will be participating to make this one of your most memorable begonia get-togethers.

Several new twists — and a surprise or two — have been added to this year's show and convention, which we are certain will delight you.

Site for this year's convention is the Red Lion Inn, conveniently located on Interstate 80 at Arden Way for the motoring "begoniatic". For those who will be flying, the Red Lion provides regular shuttle service to Sacramento Metropolitan Airport.

One of Sacramento's favorite meeting spots (small parties to conventions), the Red Lion has lots to offer. All rooms are comfortable and s-p-a-c-i-o-u-s! All beds are queen size — just right for the conventioning. (Some of the bathtubs are even equipped with a whirlpool.) The several lounges and restaurants at the Red Lion are excellent and are popular gathering spots.

Within walking distance of the Red Lion are several popular specialty and chain restaurants. Across the street from the Red Lion is a large shopping mall, Arden Fair. Located within the Arden Fair Mall is a ticket /travel agency which offers daily buses ("gambler specials") to Reno and Lake Tahoe — for less than \$10.00 per person.

The Sacramento climate in mid-September is still summer-y. 85-90 degrees is the average temperature — cool and casual is the dress. However, those planning to take a side trip to the San Francisco area may wish to bring along a sweater or light coat to protect them from the cool-ish fog when it rolls in.

To our begonia friends planning to stay in Sacramento for a few days after the convention closes, the Sacramento Branch extends a warm invitation to join us at our regular meeting to be held on Tuesday, September 19th. This will be a special night for us — installation of our new 1978-79 officers. Please join us.

Again, the folks in Sacramento look forward to seeing you all here in California's capitol city September 15, 16 and 17.

Begonially yours,  
Joan Coulat  
1978 Convention Chairman

---

**Los Angeles Fern Society**  
**Show of Ferns and Exotic Plants**  
**Los Angeles Arboretum** **July 21, 22, 23**  
Show — Seminars — Plant Sales  
For entry information: Thelma Brunton, (714)  
989-5165. Hdqtrs., (213) 877-3679.

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**AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY  
SEPTEMBER 14-17, 1978**

**HOTEL RESERVATION**

	One Person	Two Persons
Room with Queen Double Bed	<input type="checkbox"/> \$29.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$34.00
Room with two Queen Double Beds	<input type="checkbox"/> —	<input type="checkbox"/> \$34.00
CHARGE FOR ADDITIONAL PERSON	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 5.00	

Room Rates Subject to 7% Tax.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

ARRIVAL DATE \_\_\_\_\_ DEPARTURE DATE \_\_\_\_\_

To insure accommodations, reservations must be received 14 days before arrival. **Deposit of one night's rate required to hold room past 6 p.m.** Deposit refunded if 24 hour cancellation notice is given.

COURTESY CAR SERVICE: ☐ YES ☐ NO

FLIGHT # \_\_\_\_\_ CARRIER \_\_\_\_\_ TIME OF ARRIVAL \_\_\_\_\_

To make hotel reservations, send check to:

RED LION MOTOR INN  
2001 Point West Way Sacramento, CA 95815  
916/929-8855

**CONVENTION REGISTRATION**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

		Required Number	Amount
Registration and Preview Fee .....	\$ 5.00	_____	_____
Seminars (8) No Charge .....			
Annual Meeting Luncheon .....	7.00	_____	_____
Banquet .....	11.00	_____	_____
Garden Tours .....	7.50	_____	_____
Total Registration for all activities .....	\$30.50	_____	_____

Please make CONVENTION REGISTRATION checks payable to  
ABS CONVENTION FUND 1978  
to be received by August 30, 1978

Mail to:  
Mrs. Mary Vipond  
1719 Markham Way  
Sacramento, California 95818

# CLAYTON M. KELLY SEED FUND

Linda Miller, Director

July 1978

## SPECIES

- JY 1 — *B. fernando-costae*: Brazil. Eye-catching plant with soft, fleshy, green, cupped, oval, roundish leaves with inconspicuous hairs. Branched shrub, 1 to 2 ft. Erect clusters of white blossoms, with pointed petals. Germination time: 11 days ..... per pkt 1.00
- JY 2 — Unidentified Guatamalan species. Lovely rhizomatous begonia with green star-shaped leaves. Germination time: 8 days. ... per pkt 1.00
- JY 3 — *B. maculata*. Pretty shrub-like plant with red flowers. Germination time: 11 days. .... per pkt 1.00
- JY 4 — *B. malabarica*: 1783, Ceylon. One of the oldest known begonias. A thick-stemmed upright. Grows to 2 ft. Deeply toothed leaves, which are white spotted when young, covered with short white hairs. Leaves grow to 6 inches long. Flowers are bright pink. .... per pkt 1.00
- JY 5 — *B. picta*: 1807, India. Low growing tuberous species. Beautiful variegated leaves, ornamental. Flowers are rather large and special, pale rose in color. Germination time: 12 days. .... per pkt 1.00
- JY 6 — *B. rajah*: 1894, Malaya. Rhizomatous, medium leaved with unusual and distinctive surface. Leaves brown, quilted, with green veins. Blooms almost continuously under lights. Terrarium culture recommended. .... per pkt 1.00
- JY 7 — *B. suffruticosa*: Africa. Semi-tuberous, with tubers resembling a small potato. Low growing. Has tiny, thin textured leaves, deeply cleft. White flowers in summer and fall. Beautiful. ... per pkt 1.00
- JY 8 — *B. venosa*: Brazil. Upright, usually without branches, about 2 ft. high, with thick leaves beautifully covered with white felt, and very large papery bracts. Flowers white to yellowish white, late summer to spring. Germination time: 13 days. .... per pkt 1.00
- JY 9 — *B. wollnyi*. Semi-tuberous with some tubers up to 5 inches across. Winter blooming with pinkish white flowers on medium clusters. Sparsely branched stems. Leaves with purple veins and silver splotches, toothed margins. Germination time: 11 days. per pkt 1.00
- JY 10 — Mixed Begonias — no semps. A mixture of more than 50 varieties, some that were not enough to offer, others that were spilled during packaging. Germination time: various. .... per pkt .25

## GESNERIADS

- JY 11 — *Sinningia cardinalis* ..... per pkt .75
- JY 12 — *Sinningia macropoda* ..... per pkt .75
- JY 13 — *Streptocarpus*. Mixed hybrids ..... per pkt .75

## OTHER PLANTS

- JY 14 — *Asparagus deflexus*. This still fairly unknown shrub is much more compact than *A. sprengeri*. Very lovely. .... per pkt 1.00

JY 15 — *Bignonia*: Native to the southern states. "Trumpet vine" to 60 ft.  
A lovely climber, with trumpet-shaped flowers of orange-red.

per pkt .75  
JY 16 — *Celosia* 'Red Fox'. Annual cockscomb. .... per pkt .25

All orders will receive a free packet of mixed Gesneriad seeds.

California residents please add 6% sales tax. All customers, please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Make all checks or money orders payable to: Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund. Foreign customers, please pay in U.S. funds only. Mail to: Mrs. Linda Miller, P. O. Box 227, Gardena, CA 90247.

## REGISTRATION OF BEGONIA CULTIVARS

NOTE: The American Begonia Society is the International Registration Authority for cultivars of genus *Begonia*. Information regarding registration may be obtained from ABS Nomenclature Director Rudolf Ziesenhenné, 1130 N. Milpas St., Santa Barbara, CA 93103.

### No. 641 — *Begonia* (B. unnamed rex cv. X B. 'H Via P.L.') 'Jim Rada'

This rhizomatous rex cultorum was originated in 1967 by Bob Cole, The Plant Shop's Botanical Garden, 18007 Topham, Reseda, CA 91335, but has not yet bloomed nor been distributed. Leaves are deep brown-maroon, with bright green-silver into center, subentire, 8 X 6"; margin ciliate with red hairs, somewhat puckered; 6-nerved; petioles 8-10" with red hairs; stipules red,  $\frac{3}{4}$  x  $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Registered Jan. 20, 1978.

### No. 642 — *Begonia* (B. 'Green Frills' X B. 'Pam Sue') 'Mellow Sunset'

Developed in 1975 but not yet flowered nor distributed, this rhizomatous, erect-stem rex cultivar was originated by Bob Cole, address above. Leaves puckery silver lace that turns metallic pink, speckles at center veins and at edge dark pink margin, subentire with overlap,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  x 6"; margin ciliate; texture pebbly-

smooth; 6-nerved; petioles 6 - 8" with white hair; stipules  $\frac{1}{2}$  x  $\frac{1}{2}$ ", reddish. Registered Jan. 20, 1978.

### No. 643 — *Begonia* (B. 'Big Rex' X B. 'Sir Roy Yewell') 'Huddle'

Named because of its small compact growth suggesting football huddle. Its originator is Bob Cole, address above. This rhizomatous rex cultivar was developed in 1976 but has not yet bloomed nor been distributed. Leaves are deep green with black edge and center, random silver dots and tail; spiral, fluted, subentire; 4 x 6"; margin lobed; texture puckery smooth; 10-nerved; petioles 3 - 6"; stipules  $\frac{1}{2}$  x  $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Registered Feb. 16, 1978.

### No. 644 — *Begonia* (B. 'Sir Roy Yewell' X unnamed rex cv.) 'Gentle Touch'

Developed in 1976, first bloomed in 1977 and first distributed in 1978 by Bob Cole, address above, this rhizomatous rex cultorum has black-green leaves with a touch of silver pink splotching; subentire, swirled;  $5\frac{1}{2}$  x 4"; lobed; lightly hairy; 9-nerved; petioles  $5\frac{1}{2}$ "; stipules  $\frac{1}{2}$  x  $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Flowers are pink. Registered Feb. 16, 1978.

### No. 645 — *Begonia* (B. masoniana X B. 'Green Frills') 'Quasar'

Bob Cole, address above, originated this rex cultorum rhizomatous plant in 1976 but has not distributed it nor has it bloomed. Leaves are green-black, silver, and bright green, with round, heavy swirls;  $5\frac{1}{2}$  x 6"; lobed; flat texture; 13-nerved; petioles 4 - 8"; stipules  $\frac{1}{2}$  x  $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Registered Feb. 16, 1978.

**No. 646 — Begonia (B. 'Pam Sue' X B. 'Green Frills') 'Sylmar'**

Not yet distributed, this rex cultorum rhizomatous was developed by Bob Cole, address above, in 1976 and it first bloomed in 1977. Leaves are whitish silver, center green with silver spots; subentire; 6 x 7"; crenate margin, lightly hairy; 7-nerved; 6" petioles; stipules  $\frac{1}{2}$  x  $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Registered Feb. 16, 1978.

**No. 647 — Begonia (Mutation of B. 'Exotic Peridot') 'Silver Peridot'**

This rhizomatous rex cultivar was developed in 1976 but has not yet been distributed by originator, Bob Cole, address above. Originally a small compact size, the plants appears to get larger and larger as they continue to mutate. Leaves are silver-pink with some dark green flecks; overlap shape, subentire; 3 x 2"; margin lobed; texture puckery-smooth; 8-nerved; petioles  $4\frac{1}{2}$ "; stipules  $\frac{1}{4}$  x  $\frac{1}{4}$ ". Registered Feb. 16, 1978.

**No. 648 — Begonia (B. 'Big Rex' X unnamed rex cv.) 'Ratchy Patchy'**

Bob Cole, address above, developed this spiralled rhizomatous rex cultivar in 1976 but it has not bloomed nor been distributed. Leaves are green-black, green, with silver markings; fluted and subentire; margin lightly lobed; texture puckery-smooth; 10-nerved; petioles 4 - 8"; stipules  $\frac{1}{2}$  x  $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Reg. Feb. 16, 1978.

**Her Majesty Sylvia Leatherman**

(Continued from page 173)

rexes. Her interrogations led to the publication of an article by Gian Luigi Sani of Italy on watering and wilting of rex begonias. (1957, page 131). She hybridized many rex cultivars: Her named varieties list would fill this page. Over a period of twenty years, she registered 16 rexes with ABS.

Her hybrids have two sorts of names. One set is interesting, playful and timely, particularly when one is aware of the events they represent, for example, B. 'Streaking', B. 'Hippie', B. 'Happiness Is' and B. 'Frasier'. The other set includes the members of the Royal Family. For her own family and friends, she chose cultivars to name after them, each with *Lady* or *Sir* preceding. These include B. 'Lady Frances Jean' and B. 'Lady Mary Harrison'.

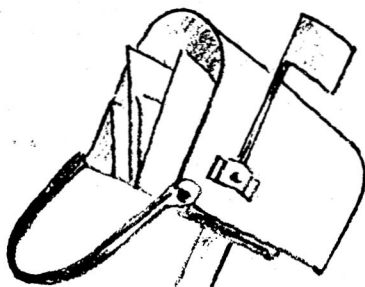
Honors came to Sylvia in the form of the Eva Kenworthy Gray Award in 1967 for imparting knowledge of begonias to others and in 1969, the Alfred D. Robinson Medal went to her rex begonia, B. 'Lady Frances Jean'.

Friends of Sylvia and Buck Leatherman gathered at the home of one of their sons recently to wish them well on their 50th wedding anniversary. In honor of the occasion, Bob Cole who grew up in the shadow of the Leatherman Gardens, developed two rex begonias which he has named, *Begonia* 'His Majesty Buck Leatherman' and *Begonia* 'Her Majesty Sylvia Leatherman' to join the rest of the loyal subjects of the Royal Family.



# BEGONIA QUESTION BOX

Write to: Elda Haring  
Box 236, Flat Rock, NC 28731



You will receive a prompt personal reply.

*Question:* Would leaves of begonia be poisonous if eaten by a child

*Answer:* Insofar as I can ascertain there are no recorded instances of begonia leaves being poisonous. In some areas where they grow wild a few species are used by the natives for food. For instance, *B. picta* stems are used for pickling. However, begonias that have been sprayed with an insecticide or on which systemics have been used should be kept out of reach of children and pets for these materials could be dangerous if ingested.

*Question:* In October I took a cutting of Tuberhybrida *B. pendula*. It lived in the greenhouse all winter and is starting to bloom. By fall will a tuber have formed that I can store in the usual manner? *Answer:* If you can keep the plant growing all summer a small tuber should have been formed by autumn.

*Question:* I am raising *B. evansiana* from seed. The seedlings are now about 1½" to 1" in size. When does *B. evansiana* go dormant? Will they grow enough during the first summer or is their initial growing period longer than a season? *Answer:* Seedlings of *B. evansiana* quickly grow

tubers when very small and should be of good size by September or early October there in Tennessee. The tubers may be stored in their original pots until growth begins in spring. Young seedlings of this begonia will often continue to grow all winter under fluorescent lights.

*Question:* My *B. quadrialata* has been developing soft brown spots in the center of the leaves close to the petiole, then the area enlarges until the stem gets soft and drops off. Could this be due to extra moisture droplets falling on the leaves at night? The root system is good and the plant is blooming. The damage is confined to the older leaves. *Answer:* Any leaves that develop brown spots should be promptly removed. If condensate is very heavy, droplets could cause rotting. If the top of the terrarium is close to the lights you may be getting too much heat from the ballast. Keep damaged leaves picked off and wipe the extra moisture from the glass frequently to see if the condition improves.

*Question:* Young purchased plants in their soil and pots grow well for one or two months. Then new leaves start to rot off and are deformed. Can you help? *Answer:* When you obtain small plants through mail order or

otherwise give them only 3 or 4 days to become accustomed to conditions in your plant room, then promptly remove them from the pots. If the root system is well developed and filling the pot repot immediately to the next size. If the root system is not well developed let remain only until roots have reached to the bottom of the pot. Young plants should be examined from time to time during the growing season for it is important to keep them growing vigorously by shifting to larger pots as needed.

*Question:* My begonias aren't growing well. They are in my cellar under fluorescent lights. I water plants in plastic pots every three days and in clay every five days. Rhizomes and leaves rot usually after watering.

*Answer:* Your begonias have been damaged by over zealous watering causing rhizomes and stems to rot. The roots are not getting enough oxygen for they are undoubtedly saturated. Turn the plants out of their pots removing as much of the wet soil as possible and repot in fresh potting mix. Wait a few days and then water sparingly. New roots should form within a couple of weeks. No collection of plants can be watered on a regular basis. Every one should be observed individually and treated accordingly. Always let mix dry out between waterings but not to the point that leaves start to wilt.

**Beautiful cyclopedia TROPICA;** 7,000 all-color photos of Exotic Plants, including 215 Begonias, 1,1200 pages; list price \$115.00; introductory offer to October \$98.00, postpaid if check with order. Circulars gladly sent. Roehrs Company, Box 125, E. Rutherford, NJ 07073.

## Mini-Ads

The rate for advertising in this column is \$1 per line (about 36 characters) with a minimum charge of \$4. Payment for the ad must accompany order. Send order to Advertising Manager.

### **Violets - Begonias - Episcias**

Cuttings only. Send stamp for list.

Wilson's Greenhouse, Route 1  
Box 165-4 Ozark, MO 65721

**BEGONIAS.** Featuring Wally Wagner hybrids, gesneriads, miniatures for light gardens. List 35¢ Pat Morrison/Jim Heffner, 5305 S.W. Hamilton St., Portland, OR 97221.

**The Gift Horse Greenhouse** — begonias, violets, cuttings only. List 35¢. Kit Jeans, Rt. #1, Box 319, New Johnsonville, Tennessee 37134 (615) 535-2026.

**THE THOMPSON BEGONIA GUIDE**, second edition. Three volumes; 975 pages; over 750 black and white photos; and many line drawings. Volumes may be purchased separately but subscription to entire three volumes is required. To order and for further information write E. & M. Thompson, P.O. Drawer PP, Southampton, N.Y. 11968.

**The Good, The Rare and The Beautiful in begonias.** Rex, rhizomatous, cane and shrubs. 25¢ for list. Visitors welcome. Lera's Greenhouse, P. O. Box 551, Waller, Texas 77484 (713) 372-2800.

**Begonias — Blue Ribbon Winners.** Many varieties. Retail only. Price list 35¢ or stamps. John Sousa, Begonia Paradise Nursery, 9471 Dana Road, Cutler Ridge, FL 33157.

**BEGONIAS.** All types. Limited mail order at present. List 35¢. MILLIE THOMPSON, 310-A Hill St., P. O. Drawer PP, Southampton, NY 11968. (516) 283-3237.

**Exhibition Manual.** An optional supplement of The Thompson Begonia Guide for both subscribers and non-subscribers, approximately 100 pages. Price \$4.75, optional binder \$3.50, including packaging and shipping. N.Y. residents add state tax. Now in distribution. E. & M. Thompson, P.O. Drawer PP, Southampton, NY 11968.

**TEXAS BEGONIA LOVERS,** We have many standard and unusual varieties and we love to visit with begonia people. GRANT'S PLANTS & THINGS, 252 E. Tarleton, Stephenville, Texas 76401, (817) 965-5979.

## Constitution Sections as Amended

Last year at the National Convention, the American Begonia Society Constitution was amended, the proposed Amendments were published in the *Begonian* for the approval of the membership, and the fact that the necessary two-thirds of the ballots cast were in favor of the changes was declared. However, Article IX, Section 2 is ambiguous. It can be interpreted to mean either that the amendments must be published or that the fact that they were favorably approved must be published. Since the intent is not clear, the amended sections as approved are printed here, so they may be available to all for use at the next convention.

### ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

#### Section 2.

**Life Members.** Life members shall have all the usual privileges of membership. The payment of a life membership fee shall exempt a member from paying further dues during his/her lifetime. Life memberships shall not be subject to cancellation or refund of any part of dues for any reason.

**Honorary Members.** Any person whom this Society shall deem worthy of the honor may at any regular Board or annual meeting be elected an Honorary Member by a two-thirds vote of the members present. For each person elected an Honorary Life Member, a life membership fee shall be transferred from the current funds of the Society to the Life Membership Fund. Honorary Members shall have all the usual privileges of membership.

### ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS

**Section 1.** The officers of this Society shall be: President Emeritus President, President Elect, two Vice Presidents, Treasurer, Secretary, and one Director from each Branch Society.

**Section 2.** The President Emeritus shall be Herbert P. Dyckman, Founder and First President of this Society (deceased).

**Section 3.** The following officers shall be elected annually in August by ballot: President, President Elect, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. Each member of the Society is entitled to one vote. All officers shall serve for one year and be installed at the Annual Meeting. No elected officer named in this section may succeed himself in the same position more than two consecutive terms.

**Section 4.** A Director shall be elected by each Branch Society to assume office and be installed with the remaining National Officers.

**Section 5.** Any appointed officer may be relieved of his office for just cause, and/or for the good of the Society by a majority vote of the Executive Board, subject to the approval of two-thirds of the elected Board present at a regular meeting.

### ARTICLE V. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Section 2.** The Executive Board shall consist of the President, President Elect, two Vice Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, and immediate Past President.

### ARTICLE VIII. FUNDS

**Section 2.** Neither the Board of Directors, nor anyone delegated by them, nor any of the officers, shall incur any debt or liability in the name of the Society beyond the available or funds in the hands of the Treasurer, excluding money and securities held for a specific purpose.

### ARTICLE IX. AMENDMENTS

**Section 2.** The Membership Secretary shall mail a ballot covering the proposed Amendment to each member of the Society within sixty (60) days after the Annual Meeting at which the Amendment was initiated, with the request that the member vote upon said Amendment and mail his ballot to reach the Recording Secretary ninety (90) days after the Annual Meeting at which the Amendment was initiated. If two-thirds of the votes cast are in favor of its adoption, the Amendment shall be declared adopted at the next meeting of the Board of Directors, when published in the official publications of the Society.

## PLANT Beautifully & Naturally

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**COCO-GRO™**

(natural fiber)  
Hanging Basket



Enhance your plants! Made with reinforced brown coconut fiber, **COCO-GRO™** Hanging Baskets provide drainage, retain moisture, aerate roots, and insulate. Sturdy, more durable than wire and moss, yet lightweight. Convenient direct planting. Satisfaction guaranteed. With weather treated jute hanger: 10" basket \$4.95; 12" basket \$5.75; postpaid. Calif. residents add 6% tax. Send check or M.O. to:

**THE NUTRA COMPANY, Dept. B**  
2277 Jerrold Ave., S.F., CA 94124  
Phone (415) 285-1133

# MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY May 22, 1978

The meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order at 7:50 P.M. in the auditorium of South Gate. Pearl Benell led the Pledge of Allegiance, and Wanda Elin read the Aims and Purposes. The minutes of April were approved as printed. The Secretary sent a sympathy card to our printer, Jack Bergstrom, whose mother passed away.

A letter of resignation from Corliss Engle, Public Relations Director, was read. The Board accepted it with regrets.

A discussion concerning the Franchise Tax Board and the I.R.S. followed the reading of a letter from another organization. No action was taken. Six California Branches are not registered yet.

Treasurer Gil Estrada reported \$2,696.65 balance on hand, receipts of \$2,897.83, disbursements of \$3,557.05, leaving a balance of \$2,037.43 as of May 18th.

Bill Walton reported sending material to the Show committee. He said there is no mailing class code on the **Begonian** roster.

Nathan Randall reported that Walter Barnett has been added to the Speakers list. He speaks on judging and propagating begonias.

Ralph Corwin said the Bylaws Committee will meet Saturday to prepare the draft of the proposals to present to the Board.

Phyllis Bates, Editor, stated that the June issue is ready. They have received \$275.00 from six Branches plus \$25.00 from an individual toward the Curtis Prints. The Editors are going to see about an over-run of the pictures. The Cultivar Catalogue prices were reported, and a motion was passed to go ahead with the type-setting.

The Round Robins number 100 now. A new flight on photography and one on organic gardening will be started soon, according to Mabel Corwin. Interest is high.

There was no report from the Advertising Manager.

There was one judging course sold this month, and Walter Barnett was issued a Senior Judges card, according to Margaret Lee's report.

The new Lending Librarian, Katherine Alberti, is getting the books in order. There was discussion of the value of our books.

Frances Estrada, the Historian, is happy to be receiving the news and pictures from the Branches and members at large for the National History Books. She can use them all, and appreciates the efforts of each one contributing to the book.

Linda Miller reported \$609.05 in sales, \$61.97 expenses, leaving a balance of \$547.08.

Membership processed 248 memberships, and received \$1,463.25. There are 3,709 members in good standing this month.

There was no report from the Research Director this month.

The Board accepted the report of the Nominating Committee. The ballot will be printed and sent out.

Discussion of the book, **Die Begonian** printing was tabled until next meeting.

A motion was passed to donate some unused office equipment to the Long Beach Council of Churches.

President Richardson related his experiences at the Texas Get-To-Gather, and thanked the Board for sending him.

After the Branch reports, the meeting adjourned at 10:00 P.M.

Virginia J. Barnett, Secretary

## ROBERT B. HAMM

Begonias / Gesneriads / Unusual Plants

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3635 Jennings Street  
San Diego, CA 92106

# BRANCH DIRECTORY

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME AT THESE MEETINGS

## ALFRED D. ROBINSON BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 10:30 A.M. Homes of Members  
Betty Cooper, Pres.  
4444 Arista Dr., San Diego, CA 92103

## BUXTON BRANCH

3rd Saturday, Waltham Field Sta.  
241 Beaver St., Waltham, MA  
Anthony P. Croce, Pres.  
24 Saxon Terrace, Newton, MA 02161

## CENTRAL SAN JOAQUIN BRANCH

Dr. William Ireton, Pres.  
1702 Camino Primavera, Bakersfield, CA 93306

## CONNECTICUT BRANCH

4th Monday, Home of Members  
Mrs. Arline Peck, Pres.  
Eagle Peak Rd., Pascoag, RI 02859

## DENTON BRANCH

Sharon Nied, Pres.  
1418 Dogwood Trail, Lewisville, TX 75067

## DESERT BEGONIA BRANCH

Barbara Rogers, Pres.  
8508 Shasta Dr., Tucson, AZ 85730

## EAST BAY BRANCH

3rd Thursday, 7:45 p.m.  
Northbrea Community Church, Berkeley, Ca.  
Lloyd Olson, Pres.  
1244 Mountain Blvd., Oakland, CA 94611

## EASTERN NEW YORK BRANCH

Betty Pullar, Pres.  
411 New Karner Rd., Albany, NY 11205

## EASTSIDE BEGONIA BRANCH

4th Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.  
590 116th Avenue N.E., Bellevue, Washington  
Dale Greer, Pres.  
1704 212th Ave. S.E., Issaquah, WA 98027

## EDNA STEWART PITTSBURGH BRANCH

3rd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.  
Phipps Conservatory  
Suzanne Colaizzi, Pres.  
5329 Stanton Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15206

## ELSA FORT BRANCH

1st Saturday, 1:00 p.m.  
Marion Buck, Pres.  
420 Park Blvd., Moorestown, NJ 08057

## GARDEN GROVE BRANCH

3rd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.  
New Community Meeting Center  
11300 Stanford, Garden Grove, CA 92643  
Walter Jungkeit, Pres.  
822 N. Lenz Dr., Anaheim, CA 92805

## GERALDINE DALY BEGONIA BRANCH

## GLENDALE BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 8:00 p.m.  
Glendale Federal Savings, 401 N. Brand  
Dolores Fernandez, Pres.  
4369 Tujunga Ave., North Hollywood, CA 91604

## GREATER CHICAGO AREA BRANCH

3rd Sunday each mo. except July, Aug., Dec., 2 p.m.  
Oak Park Conservatory  
561 Garfield, Oak Park, IL  
Howard G. Berg, Pres.  
17 Oak Ridge Lane, Barrington, IL 60010

## GREATER CINCINNATI BRANCH

Erich Steiniger, Pres.  
208 Beechpoint Dr., Oxford, OH 45056

## GREATER ROCHESTER BRANCH

Third Sunday, Members' homes  
Betty Fennell, Pres.  
1054 Shoemaker Rd., Webster, NY 14580

## HAMPTON BRANCH

2nd Monday, 7:45 p.m.  
Parrish Memorial Hall, Southampton, NY  
Audrey Hanzman, Pres.  
18 Knoll Road, Southampton, NY 11968

## HOUSTON TEXAS BRANCH

4th Monday, 1:00 p.m., Garden Center  
1500 Herman Dr., Houston, Texas  
Hinds Poth, Pres.  
45 Carolane Trail, Houston, TX 77024

## JACKSONVILLE BRANCH

2nd Saturday, 1:00 p.m.  
Members' homes  
James D. Koon, Pres.  
5443 Allamanda Dr., Jacksonville, FL 32210

## KNICKERBOCKER BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.  
Horticultural Society of New York  
128 West 58th St., New York  
Marjorie L. Mack, Pres.  
75 Henry St., Brooklyn, NY 11201

## LONG BEACH PARENT BRANCH

2nd Sunday, 1:30 p.m., Community Room  
Great Western S & L  
6300 E. Spring St., Long Beach  
Mrs. C. R. Davis, Pres.  
5826 Barbanel St., Long Beach, CA 90815

## LONG ISLAND BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.  
Planting Fields Arboretum  
Oyster Bay, Long Island, N.Y.  
Annette Boree, Pres.  
8 Brown Rd., Great Neck, NY 11024

## MESQUITE BRANCH

1st Tuesday, 10:30 a.m., Members homes  
Dorothy Taylor, Pres.  
2518 Spring Hill, Dallas, TX 75228

## MIAMI BRANCH

4th Tuesday, 8:00 p.m.  
Simpson Memorial Garden Center  
55 South West 17th Road, Miami Florida  
Alma Crawford, Pres.  
14250 Madison St., Miami, FL 33158

## MINNESOTA BRANCH

Quentin Johnson, Pres.  
3509 Ivy Pl., Wayzata, MN 55391

## MONTEREY BAY AREA BRANCH

4th Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.  
Lighthouse and Dickman Sts., New Monterey, Calif.  
Don Englund, Pres.  
1111 Harrison, Monterey, CA 93940

## NORTH LONG BEACH BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.  
Mercury Savings and Loan Assn.  
4140 Long Beach Blvd., Long Beach  
D. T. Sullinger, Pres.  
7238 Irvinggrove Dr., Downey, CA 90241

## ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH

4th Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.  
Fullerton S & L, 2310 E. Lincoln Ave., Anaheim  
James Barnhill, Pres.  
511 Riverside Ave., Newport Beach, CA 92660

## PALMETTO BRANCH

Arlene Waynick, Pres.  
100 Dexter Dr., Taylors, SC 29687

## PALOMAR BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.  
Vista Recreation Center  
Eleanor Calkins, Pres.  
910 Fern St., Escondido, CA 92027

## PORTLAND BRANCH

Alma Kintrea, Pres.  
3728 S. E. 76th Ave., Portland, OR 97206

## POTOMAC BRANCH

4th Sunday, 2:00 p.m., Falls Church  
Recreation Cntr., Great Falls & Little Falls Sts.  
Falls Church, VA  
Maxine Zinman, Pres.  
Rte 1, Box 73, Boyce, VA 22620



**REDONDO AREA BRANCH**

4th Friday, 7:30 p.m.  
R. H. Dana School Cafetorium  
135th St. and Aviation Blvd., Hawthorne, Calif.  
Diane Fries, Pres.  
3531 Cricklewood, Torrance, CA 90505

**RUBIDOUX BRANCH**

4th Thursday, 7:30 p.m., West Riverside Mem. Hall  
4393 Riverview Dr., Rubidoux, CA  
Glenda Elin, Pres.  
5390 Camino Real, Riverside, CA 92509

**SACRAMENTO BRANCH**

3rd Tuesday, 8:00 p.m., Garden Center  
3300 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento, Calif.  
Marvin Vipond, Pres.  
1917 Markham Way, Sacramento 95818

**SALINE COUNTY BRANCH OF KANSAS**

4th Monday 1:30 p.m., Homes of Members  
Mrs. Sam Gilmore, Pres.  
536 Crestwood Rd., Salina, KS 67401

**SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH**

1st Wednesday, 8:00 p.m., Garden Center  
Golden Gate Park, 9th Avenue and Lincoln Way  
Carol Clements, Pres.  
212 Godhall Rd., Kentfield, CA 94904

**SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH**

2nd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.  
Los Angeles State and County Arboretum  
501 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, Calif.  
Elizabeth Stuart, Pres.  
1002 Oakleaf Ave., Monrovia, CA 91016

**SAN MIGUEL BRANCH**

1st Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.  
Casa del Prado Rm. 104, Balboa Park, San Diego  
Pat Maley, Pres.  
1471 E. Madison, El Cajon, CA 92021

**SANTA BARBARA BRANCH**

4th Saturday, 7:30 p.m.  
Louise Lowry Davis Recreation Center  
1232 De la Vina St.  
Rudolf Ziesenhenn, Pres.  
1130 N. Milpas St., Santa Barbara, CA 93103

**SANTA CLARA VALLEY BRANCH**

3rd Thursday, 8:00 p.m.  
Norah Rogers, Pres.  
C. L. Sayers, Secy.  
363 Ridge Ave., San Jose 95127

**SEATTLE BRANCH**

3rd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.  
Bethany Lutheran Church, 7400 Woodlawn Ave., N.E.  
Barbara Crick, Pres.  
2845-140th NE, Bellevue, WA 98005

**SOUTH SEATTLE BRANCH**

4th Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Wm. Moshier Field House  
430 South 156th, Burien, WA  
Louis A. Pompeo, Pres.  
423 S. W. 175th Pl., Seattle, WA 98166

**TAMPA BAY AREA BRANCH**

3rd Saturday, 1:00 p.m.  
University of So. Florida, Student Chapel Bldg.  
Dora Lee Dorsey, Pres.  
8110 N. Edison Ave., Tampa, FL 33604

**TARRANT COUNTY BRANCH**

2nd Monday, 10:00 a.m., Bank of Fort Worth

**THEODOSIA BURR SHEPHERD BRANCH**

1st Tuesday 7:30 p.m.  
Senior Citizens Bldg., 420 Santa Clara St.  
Ventura, CA  
Velma Montgomery, Pres.  
5203 Aurora Dr., Ventura, CA 93003

**WESTCHESTER BRANCH**

1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m.  
Emerson Adult School Auditorium  
8810 Emerson Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90045  
Katherine Belz, Pres.  
1500 East Oak Ave., El Segundo, CA 90245

**WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH**

2nd Wednesday, 11:00 a.m. every month  
Northway Mall Community Room  
North Hills, Pittsburgh, PA  
Genevieve Allison, Pres.  
221 Schaffner Rd., Butler, PA 16001

**WHITTIER BRANCH**

1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m.  
Palm Park Community Center  
5703 South Palm Avenue, Whittier  
Gertrude Blackstock, Secy.  
15311 Elmbrook Drive, La Mirada, CA 90638

**WILLIAM PENN BRANCH**

4th Tuesday, Noon Homes of Members  
Mrs. Edward Sohler  
51 Howellville Rd., Berwyn, PA 19312

**PLEASE CHECK YOUR BRANCH LISTING**

The Branch Directory has been revised to include the latest information that has been received from the branches. In most cases, the name and address of the president is given. Any changes in the listing should be reported to the ABS secretary immediately. The Branch Directory will appear in October. Deadline is September 1.

The Board of Directors will meet July 24 at South Gate Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. The Annual Meeting will be held September 16 at the Convention in Sacramento following luncheon.

## Color Prints

The first set of color reproductions of the begonia prints from Curtis Botanical Magazine is being prepared for printing. At the present time, the fund totals \$571. The total for both sets is \$800.

One hundred copies of each set will be available for purchase. These will have no printing and would be suitable for display.

## Next Issue

The Eastern Regional Conference at Miami will be featured in the August issue. There was a delay with photographs from the event.

## BRANCH SHOW AT VENTURA

The annual Begonia and Shade Plant Show of the Theodosia Burr Shepherd Branch will be presented July 15th and 16th in the cafeteria building, 4667 Telegraph Road, Ventura (Victoria Avenue offramp from Freeway 101).

Educational exhibits and rare begonia and shade plants for sale will be offered.

The public is invited to attend, no admission charge and free parking. Hours: Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

American Begonia Society  
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